

rides him, too, for miles and miles across the desert—just as it is often called.

12. Ferdinand and Isabella, informed of the return and discoveries of their admiral, awaited him at Barcelona with honour and munificence worthy of the greatness of his services. The nobility came from all the provinces to meet him. He made a triumphal entry as a prince of future kingdoms. The Europeans brought over as a living proof of the existence of new races in these newly-discovered lands, marched at the head of the procession, their bodies painted with divers colours, and adorned with gold necklaces and pearls. The animals and birds, the unknown plants, and the precious stones collected on these shores, were exhibited in golden basins, carried on the heads of servants. The eager crowd pressed close upon them, and wondrous tales were circulated about the officers and companions of Columbus. The admiral himself, mounted on a richly charger presented by the king, next appeared, accompanied by a numerous caparisoned cavalcade of courtiers and gentlemen. All eyes were directed toward the man inspired of Heaven, who first had dared lift the veil of Ocean. People sought in his face for a sign of his mission and thought they could discern one. The beauty of his features, the majesty of his countenance, the vigour of eternal youth joined to the dignity of age the combination of thought with action, of strength with experience, a thorough appreciation of his worth combined with piety, made Columbus then appear (as those relate who saw him enter Barcelona) like a hero.

"None could compare with him," they say; "all felt him to be the greatest or most fortunate of men."

Ferdinand and Isabella received him on their throne, shaded from the sun by a golden canopy. They rose up before him, as though he had been a National Hero. They then made him sit on a level with themselves, and listened to the circumstantial account of his voyage. At the end of his recital, which habitual eloquence had coloured with his exuberant imagination, the king and queen, moved to tears, fell on their knees and repeated the *Te Deum*, a thanksgiving for the greatest conquest the Almighty had yet vouchsafed to sovereigns.

Greatest Conquest of Columbus

Date: _____

An admiral of Europe named Columbus, who discovered a new land, when he returned back to his country then king was celebrating his victory by a great procession. Chaired people were waiting for him with joy and happiness. They want to see him and his companions. Columbus reached on a richly charged that was presented by the king to him. At that time, his face was shining because of his victory and his appearance is looked like a very strong and strengthened. People called him a fortunate man. Moreover, King and Queen receive him on their throne and treat him on their equal level, Columbus looked like a Prince and national hero. He told them about his journey, to listen this King and Queen thanked that God for this greatest conquest.